



National Transportation Safety Board

# The Chairman's Corner

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Friday, November 4, 2005



## Japanese Officials Visit NTSB

On Thursday, November 3, a delegation from Japan visited with Acting Chairman Mark Rosenker and staff of the Office of Marine Safety to discuss NTSB policies and procedures for investigating maritime accidents. The delegation included representatives from Japan's Marine Accidents Inquiry Agency, Marine Accident Inquiry Association, Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan International Transport Institute, and the Embassy of Japan. During their visit to North America, the group will also meet with officials of the U.S. Coast Guard, the Transportation Safety Board of Canada, and Transport Canada. In the past, such visits have sometimes led to organizational and procedural changes in how Japan handles marine accident investigations.

*Shown (Left to Right): Yumi Kajino (translator), James Scheffer (Chief, Marine Investigations Division), Hideo Osuga (Deputy Director General, High Marine Accidents Inquiry Agency), Acting Chairman Rosenker, Hiroki Matsumoto (Embassy of Japan), Dr. Haruo Shigeta (Professor of Law, Aoyama Gakuin University), Dr. Jack Spencer (Chief, Office of Marine Safety), and Tadao Mathumoto (Marine Accidents Inquiry Association).*

## International Investigation

On October 22, 2005, a Boeing 737-200, operated by Bellview Airlines crashed in Lagos, Nigeria, killing 117 people. Dennis Jones of the NTSB was launched and was accompanied by representatives from Boeing Aircraft and Pratt & Whitney. He joins Mr. Remi Faminu, Deputy Director of the Nigerian Accident Investigation and Prevention Group, in investigating the cause of the accident. Mr. Faminu, an employee of a major U.S. airline before returning to his home country, is well known to us from having worked with NTSB investigators on several cases involving U.S. manufactured aircraft.

The NTSB has had 12 international launches in the past 11 months, including 2 in October, 5 in August, and 3 in July. Our investigative teams have traveled to Afghanistan, Canada, Costa Rica, Estonia, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Peru, Uganda, and Venezuela to investigate accidents that have claimed 716 lives.

The NTSB participates in these investigations as the "country of manufacture" under ICAO and Annex 13.



**"Be An Everyday Hero"**



As you know, the 2006 Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area has begun. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all NTSB employees to participate in this worthwhile effort. In past years, the men and women of the NTSB have been extremely generous and I applaud that generosity. I hope that you will continue to support the CFC this year and that we will reach our goal of 100% participation.

This year's campaign slogan is "Be An Everyday Hero." I am proud of the fact that NTSB employees are already "everyday heroes" and that they demonstrate heroism continuously through their hard work and dedicated service to the citizens of our great nation and the traveling public worldwide.

We are all aware of the enormously difficult year our country has had in the face of many destructive natural disasters, the most in our lifetime and possibly in the history of our country. Because of these catastrophic events, "charitable dollars" are being stretched to their limits and beyond. So I appeal to you, please join with me and support the Combined Federal Campaign.

Thank you.

Mark V. Rosenker, Acting Chairman

**NTSB ACADEMY****Human Factors Courses**

**Cognitive Interviewing for Accident Investigators (November 15-16, Tuesday - Wednesday)**

**Investigating Human Fatigue Factors (November 17-18, Thursday - Friday)**

Research psychologist Ron Fisher, Ph.D., of Florida International University, will lead Cognitive Interviewing. Dr. Fisher has developed and refined a series of interviewing techniques designed to elicit the maximum amount of accurate information from witnesses to an accident/incident. Registration deadline is November 6.

Investigating Human Fatigue Factors will be led by Mark Rosekind, Ph.D, who in addition to his past consulting work with the Safety Board, is internationally recognized for his dynamic presentations on how sleep patterns, circadian rhythms, and levels of alertness affect operational performance factors that have been increasingly identified in accident causation. Case studies will be included to demonstrate key concepts. Registration deadline is November 8.

***NTSB Welcomes New Employee***

Mr. Timothy J. Burtch, Aerospace Engineer, began his employment in the Office of Research & Engineering on October 31, 2005.

***Update on Most Wanted Safety Recommendations***

Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney signed a bill containing multiple measures related to hard core drinking driving. The Massachusetts General Court (legislature) Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security approved a mandatory boater education bill.

The Michigan House Transportation Committee passed the novice driver teen passenger restriction bill.

Danielle Roeber testified before the Michigan House Transportation Committee on teen passenger restrictions for graduated driver licensing (GDL).

The Wisconsin Senate passed a mandatory PFD bill for children.

Acting Chairman Rosenker, Tom Doyle, and Bill Gossard met with the Secretary of the California Resources Agency and the Director of the Boating and Waterways Department to promote adoption of boating safety measures by both the administration and the legislature.